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RESPONSE

**EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED
EXAMINING GROUP 1600**

EX-EMERGENCY PROCEDURE REQUESTED
EXAMINING GROUP 1600

Attorney Docket No. 2405.0167

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Mads Liendgaard Vigh et al.)
Serial No.: 09/255,655) Group Art Unit: 1623
Filed: February 23, 1999) Examiner: H. Owens, Jr.
For: USE OF D-TAGATOSE AS A)
PREBIOTIC FOOD)
COMPONENT)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

This reply is filed in response to the final Office Action mailed May 22, 2000. Prompt and favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks provided below.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1 and 7 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A method for selectively inducing production of butyrate by bacteria in the human colon comprising administering D-tagatose to a human in an amount effective to selectively induce production of butyrate.

LAW OFFICES

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON,
FARABOW, GARRETT,
& DUNNER, L.L.P.
1300 I STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
202-408-4000